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Diana T Fritz 03/21/2007 11:33:39 AM From DB/Inbox: Search Results

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SIPDIS  
TELEGRAM

August 18, 2003

To: No Action Addressee  
Action: Unknown  
From: AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI (ABU DHABI 3789 - UNKNOWN)  
TAGS: OIIP, KMDR  
Captions: None  
Subject: MEDIA REACTION: MEMBERS OF IRAQI GOVERNING COUNCIL  
VISIT THE UAE, EDITORIAL COMMENT ON PALESTINE IRAQ  
Ref: None

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UNCLAS ABU DHABI 03789

SIPDIS  
CXABU:  
ACTION: PAO  
INFO: POL ECON AMB DCM  
Laser1:  
ACTION: PAO

DISSEMINATION: PAO  
CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: CDA:RALBRIGHT  
DRAFTED: PAO:AALKHATIB  
CLEARED: PAO:TPONCE

VZCZCADI460  
OO RUEHC RUENAAA RUEKJCS RUEHZM RUEHLO RUEHFR  
RHRMDAB RUCJACC RUCQSOC  
DE RUEHAD #3789/01 2300739  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
O 180739Z AUG 03  
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1321  
RUENAAA/SECNAV WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
RUEHZM/GCC COLLECTIVE  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0699  
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0743  
RHRMDAB/COMUSNAVCENT  
RUCJACC/USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL//CCPA//  
RUCQSOC/USCINCSOC MACDILL AFB FL//PA//

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 ABU DHABI 003789

SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/FO; NEA/NGA; NEA/ARP (DJONES, TWILLIAMS,  
LMALENAS); NEA/PPD (JDAVIES, DMACINNES, DRCROFT,  
JKINCANOON); NEA/RA; INR/R/MR; PA; INR/NESA; INR/B;  
IIP/G/NEA-SA  
WHITE HOUSE FOR PRESS OFFICE; NSC  
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA  
USCINCCENT FOR POLAD  
LONDON FOR GOLDRICH; PARIS FOR O'FRIEL

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [OIIP](#) [KMDR](#) [TC](#)  
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: MEMBERS OF IRAQI GOVERNING COUNCIL  
VISIT THE UAE, EDITORIAL COMMENT ON PALESTINE IRAQ

¶1. SUMMARY: THE IRAQI GOVERNING COUNCIL'S VISIT TO THE UAE AND THE SITUATION IN THE PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES AND IRAQ DOMINATED COVERAGE IN THE UAE MEDIA. AN EDITORIAL IN "AL ITTIHAD" DESCRIBED THE IRAQI GOVERNING COUNCIL'S VISIT TO THE UAE AS A GOOD CHOICE THAT WILL IMPROVE THE IRAQI PEOPLE'S HOPES AND EXPECTATIONS. SIMILARLY, ANOTHER EDITORIAL IN "AKHBAR AL ARAB" COMMENTED ON THE UAE'S SUPPORT FOR THE IRAQI GOVERNING COUNCIL. ANOTHER EDITORIAL IN "AL KHALEEJ" COMMENTED ON THE PALESTINIANS' AND ISRAELIS DIFFERING TRANSLATIONS OF THE ROADMAP. END SUMMARY

¶2. LED BY CHAIRMAN IBRAHIM AL JA'AFARI, MEMBERS OF THE IRAQI GOVERNING COUNCIL'S VISITED THE UAE FROM AUGUST 17 TO 18. ALL ARABIC AND ENGLISH DAILIES AND ARABIC SATELLITE TV STATIONS FEATURED COVERAGE OF THE VISIT.

¶3. ON AUGUST 18, THE ARRIVAL OF CHAIRMAN AL JA'AFARI AND FIVE OTHER MEMBERS OF IRAQ'S GOVERNING COUNCIL. ALL ARABIC AND ENGLISH DAILIES FEATURED FRONT-PAGE PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE DELEGATION'S RECEPTION BY UAE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SHEIKH SULTAN BIN ZAYED AL NAHYAN IN ABU DHABI. 8/18 HEADLINES INCLUDED:

--"IRAQI COUNCIL HAILS UAE SUPPORT" (GULF TODAY)  
--"SULTAN BIN ZAYED WELCOMES IRAQI COUNCIL" (AL KHALEEJ)  
--"AL JA'AFARI: EMIRATES HISTORY WITH IRAQ IS HONOURABLE" (AL ITTIHAD)  
--"AL JA'AFARI PRAISES UAE'S HONOURABLE HISTORY IN DEALING WITH IRAQ" (AL BAYAN)  
--"IRAQI COUNCIL DELEGATION PRAISES UAE PRESIDENT'S STAND" (AKHBAR AL ARAB)  
--"COUNCIL SEEKS TO OPEN NEW PAGE" (GULF NEWS)

¶4. ON AUGUST 17, AN OFFICIAL SOURCE AT THE UAE FOREIGN MINISTRY WAS QUOTED BY THE EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY IN ALL ARABIC AND ENGLISH DAILIES IN ADVANCE OF THE DELEGATION'S ARRIVAL AS SAYING:

"THE TREMENDOUS INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT THAT THE COUNCIL HAS RECEIVED SO FAR IS UNDOUBTEDLY A CONFIDENCE BOOSTER. IT (THE VISIT) WILL HELP THE COUNCIL REALIZE THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE IRAQI PEOPLE FOR STABILITY AND SECURITY."

"THE SOURCE RE-AFFIRMED THE UNSTINTED COMMITMENT OF THE UAE TO DO EVERYTHING WITHIN ITS POWER TO SUPPORT THE COUNCIL AS IT DEALS WITH INCREASINGLY DAUNTING RESPONSIBILITIES, INCLUDING THE FORMATION OF AN IRAQI GOVERNMENT AND DRAFTING A NEW CONSTITUTION FOR THE COUNTRY."

"IN EXTENDING THIS SUPPORT TO COUNCIL, SAID THE SOURCE, THE UAE IS FULFILLING ITS GREATER NATIONAL OBLIGATIONS IN SUPPORTING THE IRAQI PEOPLE AT THIS CRITICAL JUNCTURE. THE UAE, ADDED THE SOURCE, CALLS FOR LENDING EVERY POSSIBLE SUPPORT TO THE COUNCIL SO AS TO ENABLE IT TO DISCHARGE ITS RESPONSIBILITIES IN A MANNER THAT WOULD PRESERVE THE SOVEREIGNTY, UNITY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF IRAQ."

¶5. 8/17 HEADLINES INCLUDED:

--"UAE SUPPORTS THE IRAQI COUNCIL'S EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE EXPECTATION OF THE IRAQI PEOPLE" (AL ITTIHAD)  
--"IRAQI GOVERNING COUNCIL ARRIVES IN UAE TODAY" (AL BAYAN)  
--"UAE CALLS FOR SUPPORT OF THE IRAQI COUNCIL IN ORDER TO PROTECT IRAQ'S SOVEREIGNTY, INDEPENDENCE, AND UNITY" (AL KHALEEJ)  
---"UAE CALLS FOR SUPPORT OF THE IRAQI COUNCIL IN ORDER TO PROTECT IRAQ'S SOVEREIGNTY, INDEPENDENCE, AND UNITY" (AKHBAR AL ARAB)

¶6. DESCRIBING THE IRAQI GOVERNING COUNCIL'S VISIT TO THE UAE AS A 'GOOD CHOICE,' SEMI-OFFICIAL ABU DHABI-BASED ARABIC DAILY "AL-ITTIHAD" EDITORIALIZED 8/17:

"... THE UAE IS WELCOMING TODAY A DELEGATION OF THE IRAQI GOVERNING COUNCIL CHAIRED BY MR. IBRAHIM AL JA'AFARI, THE COUNCIL'S PRESIDENT ... THIS WILL DEFINITELY LEAD THE COUNCIL TO ACHIEVE THE IRAQI PEOPLE'S EXPECTATIONS FOR STABILITY AND PEACE AND THE PROTECTION OF ITS NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY AND UNITY ... WE HOPE THAT THIS VISIT WILL BE A GOOD START FOR COMMUNICATION, DELIBERATION, AND THINKING BETWEEN THE IRAQI PEOPLE'S

REPRESENTATIVES AND THEIR BROTHERS IN THE ARAB WORLD. THIS WILL LEAD TO ELIMINATING THE VEIL THAT HAS BEEN PLACED ACROSS THEIR EYES ..."

¶7. COMMENTING ON THE UAE'S SUPPORT OF THE IRAQI GOVERNING COUNCIL, ABU DHABI-BASED PAN-ARAB DAILY "AKHBAR AL ARAB" EDITORIALIZED 8/17:

"... VIEWPOINTS MIGHT DIFFER WHEN IT COMES TO THE WAY THE GOVERNING COUNCIL WAS CHOSEN... OR WHEN IT COMES TO ITS RESPONSIBILITIES, AUTHORITIES, AND INFLUENCE ... THESE ARE NORMAL DIFFERENCES IN SUCH A SITUATION ... BUT NO ONE DISAGREES THAT THE COUNCIL INCLUDES A NUMBER OF NATIONAL PERSONALITIES WHO ARE WELL KNOWN WITH THEIR ROLES IN PREVIOUS ERAS WHEN IRAQ NEEDED A RIGHTEOUS VOICE IN THE FACE OF A 'TYRANNICAL SULTAN' ... THE UAE'S SUPPORTIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE TRANSITIONAL COUNCIL IS A CONTINUATION OF THE PATH THAT THE COUNTRY HAS BEEN PURSUING IN THEIR WELL-BALANCED FOREIGN POLICY ..."

¶8. NOTING THE TWO DIFFERING TRANSLATIONS OF THE ROADMAP BY THE PALESTINIANS AND ISRAELIS, SHARJAH-BASED PAN-ARAB "AL KHALEEJ" EDITORIALIZED 8/17:

"... THERE ARE TWO DIFFERENT TRANSLATIONS OF THE ROADMAP, AND THERE ARE TWO PARALLEL LINES THAT WILL NEVER MEET ... THE PALESTINIANS TRANSLATE THE ROADMAP TO MEAN THAT THE RIGHT OF THE REFUGEES TO RETURN AT THE FINAL STAGE OF ANY SOLUTION TO THE PALESTINIAN CAUSE. AS FOR THE ISRAELIS, THEY BELIEVE THAT THE RIGHT OF RETURN IS IMPOSSIBLE ... ANY SOLUTION THAT DOES NOT INCLUDE THE RIGHT OF RETURN IS DEFECTIVE AND IS REJECTED ..."

ALBRIGHT